

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE GOVERNOR

## **CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK**

2012

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## **A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, in 2010, there were 468 homicides with 73 of those being domestic violence homicides, and 1,954 rapes in North Carolina, according to the Annual Summary Report of 2010 Uniform Crime Reporting Data – North Carolina Department of Justice – State Bureau of Investigation and the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and

WHEREAS, there were a total of 24,488 violent crimes committed in North Carolina in 2010, according to the Annual Summary Report of 2010 Uniform Crime Reporting Data – North Carolina Department of Justice – State Bureau of Investigation; and

WHEREAS, many suffer emotional, physical, psychological, and financial harm as a result of crime; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22-28, 2012, provides an opportunity for our country to recognize the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) as a major bedrock of support for victim services and to reaffirm our state's and nation's commitment to addressing the needs of victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, victims and survivors of crime can gain strength from the wide range of supportive services offered by community- and justice system-based programs in North Carolina, including 78 rape crisis centers and 102 domestic violence service programs, according to the North Carolina Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina recognizes that the Victims of Crime Act, passed by Congress in 1984, affirmed a national commitment to helping victims rebuild their lives by establishing the Crime Victims Fund, a major source of funding for services and compensation to victims of crime throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Fund comprises fines and penalties levied on offenders and affirms the principle that those who commit crimes should be held accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, the Crime Victims Fund provides support to states for victim assistance and victim compensation programs, and VOCA funds support victim assistance programs in non-profit, law enforcement, and local and state government agencies throughout North Carolina through the Governor's Crime Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 22-28, 2012, to be "CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK" in North Carolina, and I urge all citizens to help victims of crime rebuild their lives through supportive services.



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BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-second day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.